

# Program Notice

FGIS PN01-15

10/16/01

## HARD MILLED RICE CERTIFICATION

### 1. PURPOSE

This Program Notice establishes official procedures for the determination and certification of hard milled milling degree in rice. This service is provided as an additional certification statement under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act (AMA) of 1946, as amended.

### 2. BACKGROUND

According to the U.S. Standards for Milled Rice, the degree of milling for milled rice may be classified as either: "well milled;" "reasonably well milled;" or "lightly milled." Well milled is the highest degree (or whitest) of milling addressed by the standards. The degree of milling is based on the extent to which the bran layers are removed from the kernels of rice.

To satisfy today's quality conscience consumers, U.S. rice mills routinely mill their rice to a degree that surpasses the USDA "well milled" standard. This process or practice, commonly referred to as "hard milled," efficiently removes any loose bran adhering to the surface of the milled rice and enhances the milled rice's appearance by giving it a brighter, whiter look.

Currently, the U.S Rice standards do not address the term "hard milled." Never-the-less, applicants for inspection are seeking certification for "hard milled" to satisfy sales contracts. To satisfy the growing need for this service, the Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration has, in cooperation with the Rice Millers' Association, developed a visual reference representing the minimum standard for hard milled milling degree.

This certification service is determined upon request.

### 3. MILLING DEGREE INTREPRETIVE LINES

The Board of Appeals and Review (BAR) is responsible for developing, maintaining, and when necessary, replacing the interpretative line samples.

Each rice field office, official agency (if applicable), and the BAR maintains representative samples of milling degree lines, including the interpretive line for hard milled, to assist and guide inspectors in properly assessing the degree of milling.any

interested party may obtain a comparable set of milling degree samples, for a fee, by contacting the BAR at the following address:

Technical Services Division  
Board of Appeals and Review  
10383 N. Ambassador Drive  
Kansas City, Missouri 64153-1394  
Phone: (816) 891-0418

#### **4. PROCEDURES**

Follow the procedures outlined in the Rice Inspection Handbook for determining milling degree by comparing the representative portion to the hard milled interpretive line sample.

A sample is hard milled if the representative portion is equal to or better than the hard milled interpretive line sample.

Apply hard milled on a single lot basis only, just as any milling requirement.

Record "Hard Milled" on the work record.

#### **5. CERTIFICATION**

Use the following statement in the "Remarks" section of the certificate:

"This rice meets or exceeds the minimum requirements for hard milled rice."

#### **6. QUESTIONS**

Direct any questions to the Policies and Procedures Branch at (202) 720-0252.

*/S/ David Orr*

David Orr, Director  
Field Management Division